

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 W

-----045488 022223Z /65

R 021425Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9408

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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LONDON FOR SEITZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, GH

SUBJ: REGISTRATION BEGINS

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT REGISTRATION OF VOTERS IN PREPARATION FOR MARCH 1978 REFERENDUM AND JUNE 1979 GENERAL ELECTIONS GOT UNDERWAY ON SCHEDULE AUGUST 1 IN ZONE ONE (GREATER ACCRA, CENTRAL AND WESTERN REGIONS). CIVIL REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DEPT. SAID ABOUT 330,000 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO BE REGISTERED IN GREATER ACCRA REGION BEFORE PROCESS ENDS ON AUGUST 30, 1977. REGISTRATION IN OTHER AREAS OF GHANA BEGINS LATER AND WILL END SEPTEMBER 29, 1977.

2. IN VACUOUS EDITORIALS ANNOUNCING EXERCISE, BOTH TIMES AND GRAPHIC URGED CITIZENS NOT TO BE APATHETIC BUT TO REGISTER SO THEY CAN PARTICIPATE IN REFERENDUM AND ELECTIONS. WITH UNUSUAL CANDOR TIMES REMARKED THAT TURNOUT AT REGISTRATION CENTERS "WAS RATHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOW, APPARENTLY OWING TO THE FAILURE OF PEOPLE TO LOCATE THE CENTERS."

3. COMMENT: WHILE THERE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE 400 REGISTRATION CENTERS IN ZONE ONE, FEW ARE NOW EVIDENT IN ACCRA. GIVEN ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES HERE, EFFORT TO REGISTER 330,000 PEOPLE BY END OF THE MONTH

IS LIKELY TO MEET WITH ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS. SINCE
GOG HAS PROVIDED NO INFORMATION WHATEVER ON SUBSTANTIVE
CHOICES TO BE PRESENTED TO VOTERS IN REFERENDUM AND
GENERAL ELECTIONS, CITIZENS DO NOT APPEAR EXCITED BY
OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER. TURNOUT WILL PROBABLY PICK
UP AS PR CAMPAIGNS GET IN GEAR BUT WILL PROBABLY END
UP SHORT OF TARGETS.
HOLMES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTIONS, VOTER REGISTRATION
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1425627
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REGISTRATION BEGINS
TAGS: PGOV, GH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8cf79e4f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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